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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hyung-Dong KIM et al. Conf: 3553
Appl. No.: 10/659,249 Group: 2824
Filed: September 11, 2003 Examiner: Son T. Dinh
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE FOR ENHANCING BITLINE
PRECHARGE TIME

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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December 28, 2004

**COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINER'S
STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, provided with the Notice of Allowance dated October 21, 2004, Applicants submit the following comments.

The Examiner offers reasons why the claims of the present application are allowable over the prior art of record. Although Applicants agree that the various features recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by the prior art, taken either singly or in combination, Applicants further wish to emphasize that the independent claims are allowable for the reasons previously set forth in the prosecution history, and should not be should not be imputed with or limited by the subject matter indicated as allowable by the Examiner in the October 21, 2004 communication.

Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable (and limited to the following reason for allowability) ostensibly because the prior art is silent as to one feature (or one or more

combinations of features), as recited in claim 1. Similarly, for claims 8, 17 and 20, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable ostensibly because the prior art is silent as to the one feature (or combinations of features) as recited in each of these claims. Thus, although Applicants agree that the independent claims and their dependent claims are allowable as evident from the prosecution history, Applicants wish to emphasize that the features indicated allowable by the Examiner (which are in claim 1) should not be imputed into the features recited in each of the independent claims 8, 17 and 20, which are different from the features indicated as allowable by the Examiner in the October 21, 2004 communication.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094 at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



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